

# REACH and RENEW RECAP

Congregational conversations will determine the future of proposed Reach and Renew projects

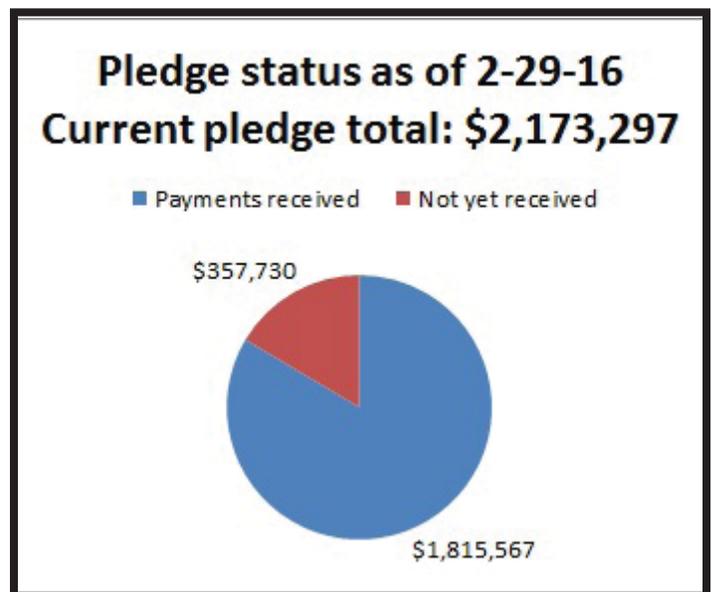


**At left:** Moderator Paul Karch addressed the congregation during a meeting on February 28 to discuss the church's long-term resources and needs. The cost of R&R projects already approved by the congregation exceeds the funds available, and decisions need to be made on whether to cut back or to undertake more fundraising, either as an extension of R&R or through a new capital campaign.

The Reach and Renew Campaign at First Congregational United Church of Christ of Madison is a five-year initiative (2011-2016) to renew our health, renew our hospitality, and renew our home.

After worship on February 28, the congregation heard the first of three presentations on the cost of R&R projects that have yet to be completed, along with a list of other work needed in the church building. Should we reduce the scope of the projects? Extend the R&R campaign for another year? Embark on a new capital campaign? **Please join in the conversation either on Sunday, March 6, after church, or on Thursday, March 17, at 7:00 p.m.**

**More R&R photos, page 2**



# Preserve our past. Inspire our future.

The Reach and Renew Campaign seeks to **renew our health** by focusing on the congregation's worship, missions, and programs; to **renew our hospitality** by encouraging the use of our space by outside groups; and to **renew our home** by making upgrades in our building. Pictured below are R&R-associated events in early 2016.



The Prison Ministry Project at First Congregational, a recipient of R&R funding, marked its tenth anniversary at a luncheon on January 3. **Above left:** Paul Lorentz repeated the commencement address he had delivered at the most recent graduation ceremony for the Restorative Justice class at New Lisbon Correctional Institution. **Above right:** Prison Ministry director Rev. Jerry Hancock, center right, spoke with well-wishers after the luncheon. **Below:** On January 24, the church celebrated the repairing and repainting of the balustrade and towers by Inspired Heights, Inc., of Rockford, Illinois. Members of the crew, shown below, spoke during worship about how working for Inspired Heights and placing their trust in God had made them better people.

